

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

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TAGS: PFOR, PE

SUBJ: ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS' MEETING WITH
FINANCE MINISTER

1. ASSISTANT SECRETARY ROGERS MET WITH MINISTER OF ECONOMY AND FINANCE, GENERAL AMILCAR VARGAS GAVILANO, MORNING MARCH 13. VARGAS WAS ACCOMPANIED BY FIVE SENIOR ADVISORS, AND MEETING TOOK PLACE IN CORDIAL, INFORMAL ATMOSPHERE. VARGAS AT SEVERAL POINTS EMPHASIZED THAT HE WELCOMED OPPORTUNITIES SUCH AS THIS FOR PERSONAL EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WHICH HE FELT CONTRIBUTED IMPORTANTLY TO INTERNATIONAL UNDERSTANDING AND COOPERATION DURING A PERIOD OF DETERIORATING WORLD ECONOMIC CONDITIONS.

2. VARGAS MENTIONED TRADE ACT AND HIS HOPE THAT IT WOULD BE THE SUBJECT OF MORE CONSTRUCTIVE EXAMINATION THAN IN THE PAST (STATE 035339, LIMA 1606). SECRETARY ROGERS REPLIED THAT HE UNDERSTOOD THE CONCERN AROUSED BY CERTAIN FEATURES OF THE ACT, BUT THAT IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT THE MOST IMPORTANT ASPECT OF THE ACT IS THAT AFFORDING THE U.S. THE OPPORTUNITY TO PARTICIPATE IN MULTILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS, SINCE WITHOUT U.S. PARTICIPATION THESE NEGOTIATIONS WOULD HAVE NEGLIGIBLE RESULTS IN WORLD TERMS. THE POTENTIAL LIBERALIZATION OF TRADE WHICH CAN RESULT WILL BE OF GREAT BENEFIT TO PERU.

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3. OTHER POINTS MENTIONED BY VARGAS WERE: (1) HIS CONCERN

THAT ALL NATIONS RECOGNIZE NEED FOR COOPERATION AT THIS
TIME OF WORLD ECONOMIC DIFFICULTY; (2) HIS HOPE THAT
DEVELOPED WORLD WOULD RECOGNIZE THAT STRONGER LDC ECONOMIES
WOULD RENDER THEM BETTER TRADING PARTNERS AND HIS CONCERN
IN THIS CONNECTION THAT AN ADEQUATE MECHANISM BE FOUND FOR
THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY; AND (3) HIS INTEREST IN THE
FORTHCOMING VISIT OF THE SECRETARY AND THE CONTRIBUTION
HE BELIEVES IT WILL MAKE TO IMPROVING UNDERSTANDING.
SECRETARY ROGERS POINTED OUT THAT THE SECRETARY HAD
TOUCHED ON ALL THE POINTS OF CONCERN TO THE MINISTER.
NOTING THAT THE MINISTER HAD NOT YET READ THE SECRETARY'S
SPEECH IN DETAIL, HE OFFERED TO SEND THE MINISTER A COPY,
ANNOTATING THOSE PORTIONS WHICH MIGHT BE OF PARTICULAR
INTEREST TO HIM.
DEAN

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